

# Inside Wallops

National Aeronautics and Space Administration  
Goddard Space Flight Center  
Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, Va.

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## *This is Flight Week at Wallops*

Students from as far away as Alaska will participate in the launch of a suborbital rocket on June 7 at the NASA Wallops Flight Facility when more than 35 students and teachers from across the country converge on Wallops for Flight Week.

Students will get a behind-the-scenes look at the preparations for a NASA rocket mission and will participate in the final reviews to clear the rocket and experiments for launch.

Thirteen schools and organizations will fly 14 experiments on a single stage Orion sounding rocket.

They are: Parkside High School and Cub Scout Pack 151, both in Salisbury, Md.; Columbus (Ga.) High School; Glenbrook North High School, Northbrook, Ill.; Key Peninsula Middle School, Lakebay, Wash.; Wendover (Utah) High School; Graham High School, St. Paris, Ohio; Franke Park Elementary School, Fort Wayne, Ind.; James River High School, Midlothian, Va.; and Sterling (Alaska) Elementary School.

In addition, the students, traveling to Wallops, will participate in workshops on rocketry and Range Control Center operations and tour the rocket, scientific balloon and aircraft facilities.



NASA Photo

### *A previous Flight Week launch.*

In its ninth year, this program provides students the unique opportunity to participate in all aspects of a science mission.

Five of the experiments will fly in the main body of the rocket's payload section, called the Suborbital Student Experiment Module, while the other nine will be placed in the nosecone.

Scheduled for launch between 6 and 9 a.m., EDT, the 20-foot rocket is expected to carry the experiments more than 25 miles above the Earth.

After descending by parachute and landing in the Atlantic Ocean, the experiments will be recovered and returned to the students later in the day.

The students will examine and analyze their experiment data and present their preliminary findings to NASA personnel the following day. Wireless communications, magnetic fields, fluids and payload temperatures during flight are the focus of the main payload experiments.

Students also will study the effects of the flight environment, such as radiation and high gravitational forces, on a variety of materials placed in the nosecone and the payload section.

## WICC Receives Contractor Excellence Award



The Wallops Institutional Consolidated Contract (WICC) team recently received Goddard Space Flight Center's Contractor Excellence Award.

This award is given to the Goddard contractor that has made a substantial contribution to the Center's mission. The recipient of the award also has demonstrated a philosophy of continuous improvement which has achieved measurable improvement in product and service outcomes.

The WICC was specifically cited for their strengths in the area of customer satisfaction, technical performance, scheduling, cost controls and innovation.

The WICC team consists of VT Griffin and its partners; EG&G, Transystems, and E.S. Action.

Photo courtesy Jim West

# Wallops Shorts.....

## In the News

*Space News* "NASA Demonstrates New Flight Termination System" and "Esrange Gearing up for NASA Balloon Launches"

*The Journal Gazette*, Fort Wayne, IN., "Money Shortage May Ground NASA Visit"

Swedish Space Corporation, Esrange "Giant NASA Balloon Aloft from Esrange Space Center"

## Launch

A NASA scientific balloon was launched from Esrange, Sweden, on June 2. The 39.57 million cubic foot balloon carried the AESOP (Anti-Electron Bus-Orbital Payload) instrument to measure positron abundance in cosmic ray electrons to determine the extent to which the large scale structure of the heliospheric magnetic field is important in the transmission of galactic cosmic rays through the heliosphere.

Dr. John Clem, University of Delaware, is the principal investigator. The balloon is still at float.

## NASA Day at Kings Dominion - July 15

Tickets are available at the Exchange, Building E-2, and include an all-you-can-eat lunch consisting of: Roasted Chicken, Hot Dogs or Hamburgers, Rolls, Condiments (includes Chili & Cheese w/ Hot Dogs), Soft Drinks or Iced Tea, Ice Cream, Fresh Fruit, Pasta Salad

Adults: ages 13 and up  
\$33 until June 29 - \$36 after June 29

Children: Ages 3 to 12  
\$28 until June 29 - \$31 after June 30

Children 2 and under are admitted free

Call Karen Shannon at x2020 for more information

## Dry, Dry Spring by Ted Wilz, Senior Meteorologist



The dry weather being experienced across Delmarva continued into May. For the fifth month in a row, we were below average for precipitation making this one of the driest springs on record.

There was measurable rainfall on nine days during May, totaling 1.94 inches, below our monthly average of 3.15 inches. The heaviest rainfall, .62 inches, occurred on May 26 during evening thunderstorms.

May was mild with temperatures averaging almost one degree above normal. Although no new record highs or lows were set during the month, we came within one degree when we reached 89 degrees on May 26, the warmest day of the month, and on the morning of May 2 when we had the coldest temperature of the month at 39 degrees.

Winds gusting to 30 mph or better occurred on five days in May, with the

highest wind speed, 44 mph, occurring on the 26th during an evening thunderstorm.

July brings summer to region in earnest with average high temperatures in the low to mid 80s. At Wallops, temperatures are often moderated by an afternoon sea breeze, keeping us 6 to 10 degrees cooler than our inland neighbors. On occasion, when we get an offshore breeze, temperatures at Wallops will climb into the 90s. We have had temperatures climb into the 100's on four occasions. Most recently, we set the all time high of 101 degrees on July 10, 1993. Overnight lows average in the upper 60s during the month. The all-time low for July was 51 degrees recorded on July 2, 1965.

July also is usually one of our wettest months. Summer heat often causes afternoon showers and thunderstorms, which can drop abundant rainfall in a very short period of time. We average 3.74 inches of rain in July, but that can vary widely. The total rainfall can be influenced by tropical features that grow increasingly likely as summer moves on.

## National Safety Month

This month marks the 10th anniversary of National Safety Month. The theme, "Making our World a Safer Place," reflects the National Safety Council's mission to prevent accidental injury and death by educating and influencing you to adopt and maintain safe and healthy practices and behaviors in all aspects of your life.

National Safety Month will address safety risks and include injury prevention tips applicable to the workplace, driving, the home, and community.



The following are designated safety focuses for the month: June 5-9, Driving; June 12-16, Workplace; June 19-23, Emergency Preparedness; and June 26-30, Home and Community.

## Technology Transfer Overview June 13

9 a.m. to noon  
Building F-6, Room 213

This course will outline the technology transfer process, explain the different mechanisms NASA uses to partner with organizations, identify factors that influence the transfer potential of a technology, describe how NASA measures the impact of technology transfer activities, and provide the benefits of reporting technology.

To register, contact Sherry Kleckner: [Sherry.W.Kleckner@nasa.gov](mailto:Sherry.W.Kleckner@nasa.gov), no later than June 6. There must be an accurate head count for the instructors to prepare the binders, as well as to ensure that there is enough space for everyone.

At least 20 people must attend for the course to be held at Wallops. It is only offered here once a year.

This also may be the last time, especially if the budget continues to be cut.

Sponsored by the Office of Technology Transfer

*Inside Wallops* is an official publication of Goddard Space Flight Center and is published by the Wallops Office of Public Affairs, Extension 1584, in the interest of Wallops employees. Recent and past issues of *Inside Wallops* also may be found on the NASA Wallops Flight Facility homepage: [www.wff.nasa.gov](http://www.wff.nasa.gov)

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